



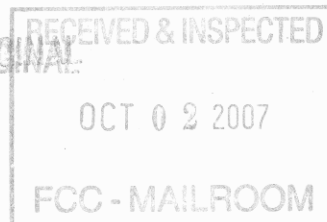
# Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Daniel R. Ebert, Chairperson  
Mark Meyer, Commissioner  
Lauren Azar, Commissioner

610 North Whitney Way  
P.O. Box 7854  
Madison, WI 53707-7854

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 - 12th Street, S.W., Room TW - A306  
Washington, DC 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL



Ms. Karen Majcher  
Vice President, High Cost and Low Income Division  
Universal Service Administrative Company  
2000 L Street, NW, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20036

Re: Annual Certification of Eligible Telecommunication Carriers  
(ETCs) for Eligibility to Receive Federal High-Cost Fund  
Support

05-GF-135

CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Ms. Dortch and Ms. Majcher:

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) requires that state commissions must file an annual certification with Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) and the FCC stating that all federal high-cost fund (HCF) support provided to carriers in their respective states will be used only for the intended purposes.<sup>1</sup>

As in previous years, the Commission requested and received sworn affidavits from the carriers identified in the enclosed list. The list identifies the name and study area as identified by USAC, and the date of receipt. All Eligible Telecommunications Carriers (ETC) receiving or projected to receive HCF support in the first quarter of 2008 have submitted affidavits. In addition, this year ETCs receiving HCF support were requested to provide information regarding the amount of support and its use. All ETCs that receive HCF support also provided information supporting the statements in their affidavits regarding their use of current and projected HCF support.

In its sworn affidavit, each carrier states:

4. Carrier files this affidavit in compliance with the Federal Communications Commission's order of May 23, 2001, in Docket No. 96-45, which requires states to certify to the Federal Communications Commission that all Federal High-Cost

<sup>1</sup> In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45/CC Docket No. 00-256, Fourteenth Report and Order, Twenty-Second Order on Reconsideration, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 96-45 and Report and Order in CC Docket No. 00-256 (FCC 01-157) (released May 23, 2001).

No. of Copies rec'd  
List ABCDE

Support within this state be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.

5. Carrier hereby states that it will use the Federal High-Cost Support Funds only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to § 254(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.

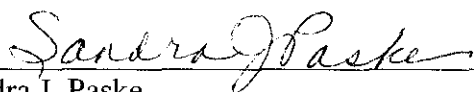
Relying on these sworn affidavits, and the additional information provided in support of those affidavits, the Commission certifies that all the federal HCF support funds received by these Wisconsin companies will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to § 254(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.

The Commission has taken note of the FCC's recent revisions to the annual certification and reporting requirements for ETCs under its jurisdiction and that in its order the FCC encourages states to adopt these same requirements.<sup>2</sup> The Commission has issued a notice in rulemaking Docket No. 1-AC-198 addressing proposed rule changes to the Wisconsin Universal Service Fund. Those proposed rules now include updated provisions regarding ETC certification and reporting that closely conform to the FCC's current federal ETC requirements.

Questions regarding this matter may be directed to Jeff Richter, of our staff, at (608) 267-9624.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, September 26, 2007

By the Commission:



Sandra J. Paske  
Secretary to the Commission

SJP:JJR:klh:DL:05-GF-135\non-docket\letter to Dortch and Majcher

Attachment

---

<sup>2</sup> In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, "Report and Order," (released March 17, 2005).



Ernie Fletcher  
Governor

Teresa J. Hill, Secretary  
Environmental and Public  
Protection Cabinet

Timothy J. LeDonne  
Commissioner  
Department of Public Protection

Commonwealth of Kentucky  
**Public Service Commission**  
211 Sower Blvd.  
P.O. Box 615  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615  
Telephone: (502) 564-3940  
Fax: (502) 564-3460  
psc.ky.gov

Mark David Goss  
Chairman

John W. Clay  
Vice Chairman

Caroline Pitt Clark  
Commissioner

September 24, 2007



Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 - 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Karen M. Majcher  
Universal Service Administrative Company  
2000 L Street, N.W., Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20036

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45  
Annual State Commission Rate Comparability Review and Certification  
For Areas Served by Non-Rural Carriers

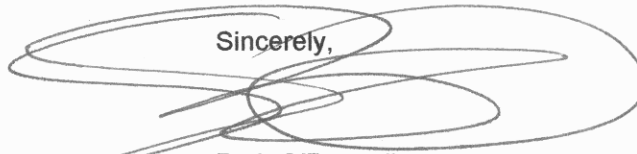
Dear Mmes. Dortch and Majcher:

In accordance with Title 47 C.F.R. § 54.316, the Public Service Commission of Kentucky hereby certifies that the residential telephone rates charged for service as of July 1, 2006, are reasonably comparable to urban rates nationwide.

In its *Order on Remand, Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, and Memorandum Opinion and Order* released in the above-referenced docket on October 27, 2003,<sup>1</sup> the Federal Communications Commission established an annually-adjusted nationwide rate benchmark as a "safe harbor." Based upon the "safe harbor," rates in rural, high-cost areas that are below the benchmark are presumed to be reasonably comparable to urban rates nationwide. The residential rates in rural areas served by BellSouth Telecommunication, Inc., Cincinnati Bell Telephone Company, and Windstream Kentucky East, Inc. f/k/a Kentucky Alltel Inc., the non-rural incumbent local exchange carriers operating in Kentucky, are below the current nationwide urban benchmark of \$34.58, and as such, fall within the safe harbor afforded by 47 C.F.R. § 54.316(b).

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact Jim Stevens of my staff at (502) 564-3940.

Sincerely,

  
Beth O'Donnell  
Executive Director

<sup>1</sup> *Order on Remand, Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, and Memorandum Opinion and Order*, CC Docket No. 96-45, FCC 03-249, 18 FCC Rcd 22559, rel. October 27, 2003.